

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 04312 281624Z

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ACTION EUR-12

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TAGS: OVIP, (SIMON, WILLIAM)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY SIMON'S VISIT FOR COMMERCIAL COMMISSION
MEETING

USDOC FOR BEWT/DOWNEY

TREASURY FOR PARSKY AND SHAPIRO

REF: STATE 70315

1. COMMATT AND ADMINOFF MET WITH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE
PROTOCOL CHIEF V.A. RAKHMANIN MARCH 28 FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION
OF SCHEDULE FOR SECRETARY SIMON'S VISIT. COMMATT GAVE RAKHMANIN
DELEGATION LIST REFTEL. AS EXPECTED, SOVIETS PRESSED FOR
INFORMATION AS TO WHICH MEMBERS OF DELEGATION WOULD ACCOMPANY
SECRETARY SIMON ON TRIP WITHIN USSR AFTER CONCLUSION OF JOINT
COMMISSION MEETING. THEY ALSO ASKED THAT THEY BE INFORMED ASAP
WHO PLANNED TO COME TO MOSCOW, AND WHEN, FOR PRELIMINARY
DISCUSSIONS PRIOR TO FORMAL JOINT COMMISSION MEETINGS.

2. TURNING TO POST-MEETING TRAVEL, RAKHAMIN ADVISED THAT
SOVIET TRADEREP MKRTUMOV HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED PROPOSE THAT
SECRETARY SIMON VISIT KIEV AND TASKENT, WITH SIDE TRIP TO
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 04312 281624Z

SAMARKAND, BEFORE DEPARTING USSR FOR NEW DELHI. COMMATT NOTED,

PER PARA 4 REFTTEL, THAT SECRETARY SIMON HAD EXPRESSED CONTINUING PREFERENCE FOR VISIT TO YALTA RATHER THAN KIEV AND POINTED TO DISTANCE INVOLVED IN VISIT TO TASHKENT. RAKHMANIN SAID HE HAD DISCUSSED MATTER WITH MINISTER PATOLICHEV, WHO HAD EXPRESSED DESIRE FOR SECRETARY SIMON TO VISIT TASHKENT, WHICH HAPPENS TO BE CITY WHICH PATOLICHEV "REPRESENTS" IN SUPREME SOVIET. COMMATT SAID HE WOULD REFER RAKHMANIN'S PROPOSAL TO WASHINGTON, WHICH RAKHMANIN COUNTERED WITH REQUEST THAT EMBASSY RECOMMEND MOSCOW-KIEV-TASHKENT (SAMARKAND)-NEW DELHI ITINERARY FOR SECRETARY SIMON. HE PROPOSED FOLLOWING, APPROXIMATE, SCHEDULE:

APRIL 12 - 1000 - DEPART MOSCOW FOR KIEV (FLYING TIME ABOUT ONE HOUR)

APRIL 13 - 1000 - DEPART KIEV FOR TASHKENT

APRIL 13 - 1800 - ARRIVE TASHKENT

APRIL 14 - IN TASHKENT AND SAMARKAND

APRIL 15 - DEPART FOR NEW DELHI

RAKHMANIN NOTED THAT SOVIET PARTY OF SEVEN-NINE PEOPLE WOULD WISH TO ACCOMPANY SECRETARY SIMON ON U.S. AIRCRAFT AS FAR AS TASHKENT. SOVIETS WOULD SUPPLY AIRCRAFT FOR TASHKENT-SAMARKAND-TASKENT FLIGHTS. (COMMENT: WE HAVE IMPRESSION THAT FOR REASONS WHICH ARE NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR, YALTA AND TBILISI VISITS ARE NOT ENTIRELY TO TASTE OF SOVIETS, ALTHOUGH THEY WOULD PROBABLY AGREE TO THEIR INCLUSION IN ITINERARY IF SECRETARY SIMON INSISTED. AMBASSADOR MENTIONED SECRETARY'S PREFERENCE FOR YALTA TODAY TO ALKHIMOV, WHO SEEMED RELAXED ABOUT IT. EMBASSY ASSUMES THAT THIS SUBJECT WILL ALSO BE DISCUSSED WITH MKRTUMOV IN WASHINGTON. PLEASE ADVISE. END COMMENT).

3. ON SUBJECT OF HOUSING FOR DELEGATION WHILE IN MOSCOW, RAKHMANIN INDICATED THAT SOVIETS PLANNED TO OFFER LENIN HILLS GUEST HOUSE FOR SECRETARY SIMON AND MEMBERS OF HIS FAMILY, AS WAS DONE DURING SECRETARY'S VISIT TO MOSCOW IN OCTOBER 1974. RAKHMANIN ASKED WHETHER SECRETARY SIMON WOULD PREFER TO STAY IN HOTEL SOVIETSKAYA WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF U.S. DELEGATION OR IN GUEST HOUSE. (COMMENT: RECALLING PREVIOUS JOINT COMMISSION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 MOSCOW 04312 281624Z

MEETINGS AND IN VIEW OF RELATIVELY LIMITED TIME ALLOWED FOR THIS YEAR'S MEETING, EMBASSY BELIEVES THERE WOULD BE SOME ADVANTAGE IF ENTIRE DELEGATION WERE IN SOVIETSKAYA. PLEASE ADVISE REGARDING SECRETARY SIMON'S PREFERENCES. END COMMENT).
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